

October 1, 2010

Mr. John J. Johnson, Executive Director Kentucky Commission on Human Rights 332 West Broadway, Suite 700 Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Dear Mr. Johnson:

It is with tremendous pleasure, and 50 years of knowledge, that I recognize the Kentucky Human Rights Commission on their Golden Anniversary.

I was elected as a state legislator in November of 1961, but remember Governor Bert T. Combs having previously issued an Executive Order guaranteeing equal rights to all Kentucky citizens in public establishments in the commonwealth. Thus, I continued to serve in the General Assembly in 1966 when Governor Edward T. Breathitt proposed the Civil Rights Act of 1966 basically confirming that previous Executive Order of Governor Combs.

As a young legislator, it was my privilege to vote for the passage of the 1966 Civil Rights Act, which was acknowledged by Dr. Martin Luther King as being "the strongest and most comprehensive civil rights bill passed by a southern state". I was the Speaker of the House in 1968 when the Fair Housing Act was passed and I encouraged my African-American legislative friends, Mae Street Kidd and Hughes McGill, in securing votes for its passage. While my friend, Senator Georgia Powers, served in the State Senate, I distinctly remember her working diligently for its passage in the State Senate.

The Kentucky Human Rights Commission has been at the forefront of creating support for all citizens of Kentucky from discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing and financial transactions. It is my pleasure on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the commission to note this historic occasion that incidentally coincides with my own personal history of 50 years of public service to the commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Julian M. Carroll State Senator